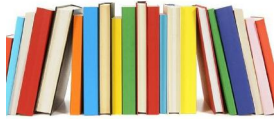


# Come see our new South Branch

Janis C. Test, Abilene Public Library 9:45 p.m. CST November 13, 2016



(Photo: david franklin)

The new South Branch of the Abilene Public Library in the Mall of Abilene will be having grand opening ceremonies on Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. The ribbon cutting and all the formalities will take place at the outside entrance of the library, on the south side of the mall next to J.C. Penney's (you'll see the crowd, we hope!).

We would love for you to join us as we burst our buttons over the newest library facility in the Abilene Public Library system. We are so proud of this state-of-the-art branch, and are so thankful to the Friends of the Abilene Public Library, without whom this would never have come to pass. Their hard work, dedication and enthusiasm for this project have been unsurpassed – we truly do have the best Friends group in the nation, and

if you aren't already a member, we urge you to join this fabulous bunch of library lovers.

After the formal ribbon cutting with the Chamber of Commerce Redcoats, members of the World Famous Hardin-Simmons University Cowboy band will escort us all into the library, marching the length of the space and out into the Mall. We'll have refreshments and prize drawings throughout the day and you'll get to explore the new space to your heart's content. Library staff will be on hand to answer any questions you might have about the library, its new hours, collections, or whatever you might come up with!



The new library will have dedicated children's space, a teen room with lots of bells and whistles, and quiet reading space for those who wish to experience an older, more peaceful library experience. A meeting room seating up to 80 people will be available for library and public programs, just as the auditorium is at the Main Library, and the activity room at the Mockingbird Branch.

Some highlights of the day's activities and entertainment include the CALF characters to interact with kids and pose for pictures (and hugs!); balloon animals, kids and teen crafts throughout the day, a family storytime, a free family-oriented movie (it's a recent hit, so you'll want to make plans for that around 3 p.m.), and much more.

We want the new South Branch of the Abilene Public Library to be an oasis, a community gathering point, a knowledge center and an all-around fun place to be – in short, a destination spot. If it has been a while since you've been in an Abilene Public Library, please come see us on Saturday, Nov. 19, beginning at 10 a.m. You won't believe your eyes!

*Janis C. Test is Information Services Manager at the Abilene Public Library, 202 Cedar St.*

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